

of the American people, gave them the highest tax increase in the history of the world with the promise they would balance the budget in 5 years. But if you give a liberal a dollar, they will spend five. They did not keep their promise, so let us give the money back.

Madam Speaker, this debate over Medicare really boils down to two assumptions about government: Liberal Democrats believe a big spending, high tax government is good. Republicans do not.

#### AMERICAN PEOPLE CONCERNED ABOUT MEDICARE

(Mrs. SCHROEDER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. SCHROEDER. Madam Speaker, I am amazed that the other side stands up and says shame, shame, shame on this side. Now, let me tell you: That side has been waving around the trustees report saying we must cut Medicare, we must cut Medicare. We have been dealing with the trustees report every year. So they go out and they slash Medicare, and they will not let the trustees even see their plan nor come and testify on their plan, because they know the trustees said you only had to cut \$9 billion, and they cut \$270 billion.

Oh, what is happening with the change there? That is a chunk of change, and we think they are going to pocket it.

Thank goodness the American people are not asleep. Let me read a letter I got today from a Coloradan. "Today's Republican single-day hearing on Medicaid was one of the most shameful displays of naked arrogant power I have ever witnessed." It goes on to say, "Enough."

If they want to do that, they can at least let the trustees see if they have the right plan. And we know what they are going to say: They are giving a tax cut.

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#### CHANTS OF TAX CUTS FOR THE WEALTHY USED AS DIVERSION- ARY TACTIC ON MEDICARE

(Mr. BALLENGER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BALLENGER. Madam Speaker, Democrats have accused Republicans of giving tax breaks to the rich. This is a blatant diversionary tactic. The Democrats have no plan to save Medicare. Rather than working to protect Medicare from bankruptcy, they would rather sling mud.

The Republican tax proposals have nothing to do with Medicare. Our cuts in discretionary spending alone will save \$151 billion. Savings in welfare and other mandatory spending programs will save \$171 billion. So just in

these two areas we save \$322 billion, far more than our tax cuts.

Democrats have got to realize that in most areas of government life it is time to tighten our belts. The American people mandated these changes in 1994. Now, it is up to us to see our promises will be kept. It is time to protect Medicare and assure beneficiaries that the program as they know it will continue to be available. It is not the time to scare our parents and grandparents into believing class warfare distortions.

#### TRIBUTE TO AMERICAN VISIONARY JAMES W. ROUSE

(Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland. Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in a tribute to an American visionary and native Marylander, James W. Rouse. Today James Rouse is receiving our Nation's highest civilian award, the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

Mr. Rouse is best known as the creator of shopping malls and Columbia, MD, the largest planned city in America. However, in addition, James Rouse has devoted his life to implementing a vision that has transformed and improved the lives of millions of Americans.

Madam Speaker, many say that with developments such as the Inner Harbor in Baltimore, James Rouse is singularly responsible for saving American cities. His nonprofit Enterprise Foundation formed in 1981 helps low-income neighborhood groups in cities across America rebuild their housing.

Mr. Rouse's words should inspire us all. "A full life is not achieved through one's material well-being, but by dealing with the whole of life wherever one is. Circumstances have placed me in the life of the city. I see so many things that ought to be better."

Congratulations, Mr. Rouse.

#### REPUBLICANS ASSAULT ON WORKING FAMILIES

(Ms. PELOSI asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. PELOSI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express grave concern over the Republican assault on working families through their harmful Medicare and Medicaid proposals. Consider the way in which the Republican Medicaid legislation, which passed the Committee on Commerce, leaves the elderly and their families unprotected.

Madam Speaker, elderly people with incomes of less than \$625 per month would lose their guarantee to assistance in paying their monthly Medicare premiums. Five million women in America depend on Medicaid to pay their Medicare premiums each month.

In addition to this, there is the problem of nursing home care. In addition to lifting standards for nursing homes, there would be no more guarantee of coverage for nursing homes, there would be no more guarantee of coverage for nursing home care after an individual or family has spent all of its savings. There would be no more guarantee that spouses of nursing home residents would be able to retain enough monthly income to remain in the community.

Madam Speaker, States would be allowed to place liens on the homes, family homes and family farms. States would be allowed to require the adult children of nursing home residents to pay for their parents' nursing home care, about \$40,000 a year. And all of this in order to give a tax break to the wealthiest Americans.

#### DEMOCRATS PLANNING AN OCTOBER 5 TOUR AROUND THE COUNTRY

(Mr. LAHOOD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAHOOD. Madam Speaker, America should get ready. The Democrats are coming, and the date is October 5. This is their blueprint for coming into more than 50 districts around the country, not to talk about how to save Medicare, but to criticize Republicans.

We have a plan, Madam Speaker. We want to save, protect, and strengthen Medicare, but this is their blueprint. If America wants to know when they are going to be in your area, please call my office. It is October 5. They have no plan. All they want to do is come to these districts and scare Americans and scare senior citizens.

If America wants to know the truth, if they want solutions, if they want to know how we are going to strengthen and protect and save Medicare for our seniors, they should call my office and we will be happy to give them the details. This is the blueprint. They are coming October 5, so get ready.

#### DEMOCRATS NOT INCLUDED IN REFORMING MEDICARE OR MEDICAID

(Mr. KLINK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KLINK. Madam Speaker, I got a hoot out of hearing my colleagues talking about the Democrats having no plan. It is like a baseball game and it gets to be the bottom of the ninth inning, and they turn to our team and say, hey, do you want to go to bat? They have not included us in any of the plans, they have not included us in anything, and now they want to know if we can to join with them in the bottom of the ninth inning.